Table 1. Application Scoring Criteria	
Scoring criteria: 0 – Not at all 1 – It's not clearly stated, but could be assumed based on application details 2 – Yes, but not to an appreciable extent 3 – Yes 4 – Yes and it is well documented within the application 5 – Unique or focused approach; goes above and beyond a typical DNR Learn to Hunt program; and is well documented within the application.	Maximum scores listed in top right cell of each section
A. Project Audience	15
 The applicant explains how the project will engage historically underrepresented groups: Beginning hunters, defined as anyone who has not hunted, or who has hunted for not more than 10 consecutive years, and who has a limited personal network of people available to help them learn to hunt. Any of the following people: American Indians or Alaskan Natives Asians Blacks or African Americans Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders Hispanics Women, women-identifying, and non-binary people People with disabilities Project audience is none of the above. 	0-5
The applicant explains how the project has documented success at reaching historically underrepresented groups.	0-5
Project targets families or cohorts (groups of people sharing similar demographic characteristics, and/or a likelihood of maintaining supportive learning relationships).	0-5
B. Project Objective(s), Approach, Design and Scope	5
Project utilizes best practices established by practitioners in the field of outdoor skills-based outreach and education. Projects that utilize best practices have these qualities: a. Clearly defined educational purpose. b. Ensures safety of all participants and instructors. c. Addresses components the Outdoor Recreation Adoption	0-5

model in an age- and culturally appropriate manner. d. Utilizes well-trained instructors (paid or volunteer).	
D. Likelihood of Project Success and Long-term Sustainability Projects that teach hunting skills using a plan that demonstrates a likelihood of long-term sustainability.	20
Project builds capacity for the applicant's existing program that has been proven to recruit and retain hunters; <i>OR</i> Project implements a new program within the applicant's organization that has been proven successful elsewhereby others, to recruit and retain hunters.	0-5
 The applicant explains how the project will include a pathway to continue developing or engaging the target audience (the project addresses "what's next" for the target audience). 	0-5
Measurements of success are adequately documented in the project's approach and results sections.	0-5
Application is characterized by strong partnership(s).	0-5
Section E. Project Content The Hunter R3 Grant funds projects that teach the skills, knowledge, and attitudes to be responsible and safe hunters; provide instruction in safe firearm operations, ethics, game laws, outdoor survival, and first aid; and hunter recruitment and recreational shooter recruitment.	12
The Project uses an innovative approach to address one or more of the following barriers to hunting:	0-5 x 2
Access: The project teaches participants how to access private land or high-quality experiences on public land; or the project positively shapes participants' expectations of hunting on public land.	
Mentorship: The project connects people new to hunting with a trusted, experienced hunter willing to act in the role of a long-term mentor.	
Motivation: The project inspires or motivates people to pursue hunting rather than prioritizing other activities.	
Public Image: The project uses effective strategies to mitigate negative aspects of the public image of hunting.	
 Examples: programs for non-hunters or beginning hunters that discuss CWD, harvesting an animal, etc. 	

 Marketing or communications projects that reflect positively on hunting (contact grant managers prior to applying). Focused Skills: Project focuses on teaching one technical skill related to hunting, such as: 	
 Shooting skills. Home butchering and processing. Removing and submitting lymph nodes for CWD testing in white-tailed deer. Cleaning and maintaining equipment (firearms, knives, etc). Outdoor survival or first-aid. Learning and understanding hunting regulations. Other – explain. 	
Section D. Purchase of Loaner Equipment Does the project outline a plan to use the equipment regularly and often over its lifetime?	2
> Bonus Point: The project has an archery focus.	1
Bonus Point: The project incorporates land stewardship education, habitat awareness, and/or climate change education.	1
Total Points	54